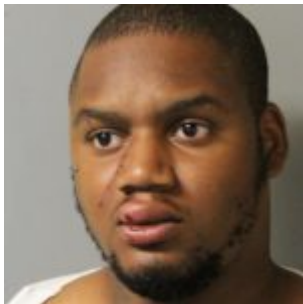


Vehicle Pursuit Leads to the Arrest of Two Suspects and Multiple Charges-Milton



Tajah L. Brooks



Nafese A. Pierce

Milton- The Delaware State Police have arrested two suspects after they shoplifted, fled the scene, and led police on a chase.

The incident occurred on Sunday, August 5, 2018 at approximately 7:06 p.m. when Troopers were provided with a description of a vehicle, an orange-colored Chevrolet Cobalt with PA registration, in which two suspects recently shoplifted in the Rehoboth Beach area and fled the scene.

A Trooper witnessed the suspect vehicle traveling northbound on Coastal Highway (SR1) south of Milton, and a traffic stop was initiated on the northbound shoulder of SR1. Before the Trooper was able to make contact with the driver, the Cobalt accelerated and entered back into the right travel lane of SR1, and a pursuit ensued.

The Colbalt continued to travel northbound on the shoulder of SR1 and proceeded through the intersection at Broadkill Road (SR16), when it ran up onto a traffic island where it collided with an electric box. After striking the box, the Colbalt continued traveling northbound until its front end collided with the left side of a Mazda CX-5, which was traveling in the right turn lane of SR16 leading to northbound SR1. After colliding with the Cx-5, the Colbalt continued northbound on SR1 and collided with the right rear of a Ford Windstar, that was traveling in the right lane. After the second impact, the Colbalt exited the edge of SR1 and collided with a mailbox before coming to a final rest on the shoulder of northbound SR1. The suspects exited the Colbalt and fled the scene on foot. A brief foot pursuit ensued, and subsequently both suspects were taken into custody.

The driver of the Colbalt, identified as 23-year-old **Tajah L. Brooks** and his passenger, 22-year-old **Nafese A. Pierce** both of Philadelphia, PA, were transported by ambulance to the Beebe Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries.

The operator of the CX-5, a 56-year-old female and her 13-year-old passenger of Philadelphia, PA were properly restrained and transported to the Beebe Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries.

The operator of the Ford Windstar, a 41-year-old male of Philadelphia, PA, and his five passengers, ranging from ages 2-39 were all properly restrained and uninjured.

Tajah L. Brooks was charged with the following:

- Shoplifting (Felony)-2 counts
- Reckless Endangering -8 counts
- Vehicular Assault
- Resisting Arrest
- Disregard a Police Officer
- Aggressive Driving

- Reckless Driving
- Multiple Traffic Related Offense

Tajah L. Brooks was arraigned before the Justice of the Peace Court 3 and committed to the Sussex Correctional Institution on \$18,426.00 cash only bond.

Nafese A. Pierce was charged with the following:

- Possession of Shoplifters Tools (Felony)
- Shoplifting (Felony)
- Conspiracy Second Degree
- Resisting Arrest

Nafese A. Pierce was arraigned before the Justice of the Peace Court 3 and committed to the Sussex Correctional Institution on \$7,000.00 secured bond.

A search of the vehicle yielded stolen merchandise from the following stores:

- J. Crew
- CVS
- Kmart
- Nike
- Vans
- Zumiez
- Express
- Forever 21
- Clarks

Northbound SR1 at SR16 was rendered to one lane for approximately 2.5 hours while the crash was investigated and cleared.

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800

VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@delaware.gov.

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*Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal
Melissa Jaffe*

Released: 080618 0916

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